

# SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

## Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

### February, 2002

*This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Second Middlesex Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.*

### Residents of Second Middlesex Representative District

#### **Treatment Admissions:**

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 0.2% (290) reside in the Second Middlesex Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (55) of Second Middlesex Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 69.6% of admissions from the Second Middlesex Representative District were male and 30.4% were female.
- Over 53.1% of admissions were between the ages of 21-39.
- 92.7% of admissions were white non-Latino, 1.3% were black non-Latino, 5.1% were Latino, and 0.6% were other racial categories.
- 64.8% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 15.5% were married, and 12.7% reported not to be married now.
- 31% of admissions had less than high school education, 43.4% completed high school, and 25.5% had more than high school education.
- 48.9% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 9.3% of those admitted were homeless.
- 13.1% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

#### **Substances Used in Past Year:**

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Second Middlesex Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

<b>Table 1</b> <b>Annual Admissions by Substance Used</b> <b>FY 1995 – FY 2001</b>							
<b>Second Middlesex Representative District</b>							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
<b>FY '95</b>	258	238	66	43	41	28	16
<b>FY '96</b>	215	198	58	26	30	16	9
<b>FY '97</b>	259	231	68	44	29	48	31
<b>FY '98</b>	297	258	97	55	41	58	40
<b>FY '99</b>	272	233	95	61	31	68	57
<b>FY '00</b>	301	247	93	64	36	86	67
<b>FY '01</b>	290	230	114	62	34	73	46

- Since dropping in FY 1996, residents of Second Middlesex Representative District reported an increase across all the drug categories.
- Between FY 1996 and FY 2001, admissions reporting heroin use increased by four fold, while alcohol use increased by 16%, marijuana by 96%, cocaine by 138%, and crack use by 13% .

**Primary Substance of Use:**

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Second Middlesex Representative District.

<b>Table 2</b> <b>Primary Drug by District and State FY 2001</b>					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	51.7%	22.4%	13.4%	2.0%	1.3%
State	46.4%	35.9%	6.5%	3.8%	3.4%

- While heroin, cocaine, and crack as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was lower than the State average, alcohol and marijuana was higher within your District.